

Message Text

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ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /031 W

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O 152330Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 5095

INFO AMEMBASSY NICOSIA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ATHENS IMMEDIATE

USMISSION USUN IMMEDIATE

USMISSION NATO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

USNMR SHAPE IMMEDIATE

USDOCOSOUTH IMMEDIATE

CINCUSAFE IMMEDIATE

COMSIXTHFLT IMMEDIATE

USCINCEUR IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T ANKARA 5589

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CY, TU, GR

SUBJ: CYPRUS COUP

REF: ATHENS 4493, 4494

1. TURKISH POLICY ON THE CYPRUS COUP IS STILL EVOLVING. YET TWO JUDGMENTS WHICH WILL BE IMPORTANT AS USG MOVES TO PREVENT SPREAD OF CONFLICT AND PROTECT ITS OWN INTERESTS CAN NOW BE SUGGESTED WITH SOME CONFIDENCE:

(A) GOT WILL MOVE STRONGLY, DIRECTLY, AND UNITEDLY TO PREVENT ENOSIS BY ALL MEANS, INCLUDING USE OF FORCE, WHEN AND IF IT IS CONVINCED ENOSIS IS IMMINENT. THIS IS NOT ONLY NATIONALIST AND EMOTIONAL REACTION BUT PART OF ACCEPTED TURKISH GRAND STRATEGY.

(B) UNTIL SO CONVINCED, GOT LIKELY ATTEMPT LAY RESPONSIBILITY FOR ACTION ON GENEVA SIGNAOTIRES, UN, NATO, AND US--UNLESS TURK

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CYPRIOTS COME TO SUFFER SUBSTANTIALLY, IN WHICH CASE DIRECT ACTION

OF SOME KIND WOULD AGAIN BE LIKELY.

2. OTHER, MORE SUBTLE, CHOICES AND ACTIONS WILL PROBABLY FOR TIME BEING SEEM LESS IMPORTANT TO TURKS THAN TO GREEKS, CYPRIOTS THEMSELVES, NATO, U, AND EVEN RUSSIANS: E.G. COMPARATIVE VIRTUES MAKARIOS (IF HE IS STILL ALIVE) AND CLERIDES, REINFORCEMENT OR NOT FO THE TURKISH CONTINGENT, ROLE OF UNFICYP, ETC. AT SAME TIME, GOT WILL CONTINUE DEEPLY SUSPICIOUS OF IOANIDES GOVERNMENT AND ANKARA IS ALREADY CLEARLY VERY FEARFUL THAT ANY GOVERNMENT LED BY SAMPSON IS AN ENOSIS GOVERNMENT. FOR THESE REASONS AND BECAUSE OF ITS OWN POLITICAL NECESSITY, THE GOT CAN BE EXPECTED TO UNDERTAKE MILITARY ALERTS AND TROOP MOVEMENTS WITHIN TURKEY WHICH WILL INEVITABLY INCREASE TENSION EVEN WHILE IT AWAITS INTERNATIONAL ACTION.

3. IN THIS SITUAION, WE SEE FIRST SINE QUA NON FOR THE PREVENTION OF INTRA-NATO FIGHTING AS THE BLOCKING BY ALL MEANS AVAILABLE TO THE US OF ENOSIS OR ANYTHING THAT LOOKS LIKE IT. SECOND IS THE PREVENTION OF SIGNIFICANT HURT TO TURKISH CYPRIOTS. IN TERMS OF AVOIDING GREEK-TURK CLASH, THESE TWO, WE THINK, ARE EVEN MORE IMPORTANT THAN STOPPING A CIVIL WAR BETWEEN GREEKS ON CYPRUS. AFTER ACHIEVEMENT THESE TWO OBJECTIVES COMES SERIES OF GOALS SET FORTH PARAS 6-10 ATHENS 4493, WITH WHICH WE WHOLE HEARTEDLY CONCUR. WE WILL REFINE OUR THOUGHTS ON THESE AND OTHER IDEAS IN ATHENS 4493 AND SUBMIT ASAP.
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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: GOVERNMENT OVERTHROW, MILITARY PLANS, POLITICAL SITUATION, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 JUL 1974
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: elyme
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974ANKARA05589
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740189-0689
From: ANKARA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740750/aaaabqpe.tel
Line Count: 87
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: ATHENS 4493, 4494
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: elyme
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16 MAY 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <16 MAY 2002 by ifshinsr>; APPROVED <26-Sep-2002 by elyme>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CYPRUS COUP
TAGS: PFOR, CY, GR, TU
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005